95.925 POINTS

ANALYSIS

YOU'RE A VERY TALENTED SINGER! YOUR SINGING IS SURE TO LEAVE A DEEP IMPRESSION ON YOUR AUDIENCE. IF YOU KEEP POLISHING YOUR CRAFT, BECOMING A PRO SHOULDN'T BE OUT OF REACH!

PITCH

VII-BAM

Heh heh!

THAT SHOULD DO IT!

WH-WHAAAT?!

Tune In to the Midnight Heart

YOU'D BETTER WATCH OUT, BECAUSE MY VOICE IS SO BEAUTI-FUL...

DO YOU HAVE YOUR MOTION SICKNESS MEDICINE READY?

IF I LOSE, I WON'T BE ABLE TO FIND OUT WHAT HER ISSUE IS...

THIS ISN'T GOOD... CAN I REALLY BEAT HER SCORE?

...IT MIGHT JUST MAKE YOU CARSICK!

HUH?

BEEP

WHAT KIND OF CLUB PRESIDENT* WOULD I BE IF I COULDN'T RESOLVE A MEMBER'S ISSUE?!

IT'S DO OR DIE! I'LL BET EVERY-THING ON THIS ONE SONG!

ARTISTS

LYRICS

*HE'S NOT THE PRESIDENT.

IT'S THE SAME AS BACK THEN...

THIS REMINDS ME OF WHEN WE DID A SHOW TOGETHER IN SPRING.

BUT...

...THIS SONG IS...

HE'S JUST NOT THAT GOOD AT SINGING.

Hmm...

75 .129 POINTS

BAM

ANALYSIS

YOUR VIBRATO SOUNDS LIKE A DOG THAT WRECKED ITS BRONCHI.

W-WAIT! 20 POINTS SHOULD BE WITHIN THE MARGIN OF ERROR...

ENOUGH ABOUT THAT.

SO, WHY DID YOU SING THIS SONG?

HISTOR

ARTISTS

HUGG NOTES

AKP48

THIS SCORE IS UNACCEPT-ABLE FOR A YAMABUKI!

THE MACHINE HAS TO BE MALFUNC-TIONING!

YEAH, YOUR SCORE IS 20 POINTS LOWER.

IT'S ABOUT THE LOGO ON YOUR SHIRT.

WHAT IS IT?

HEY!

THAT'S THE NAME OF A BAND THAT BROKE UP SEVERAL YEARS AGO.

DID YOU... LIKE THAT BAND?

CAN I ASK YOU ONE LAST QUES-TION?!

I LOVED THEM.

OH... YEAH.

...RIKKA ONCE LOVED.

IT'S THE BAND...

LIVE

THEY'RE NOT THAT WELL-KNOWN, BUT THEIR LYRICS ARE SO GOOD!

Apollo

I DISCOVERED THIS REALLY AMAZING BAND!

LISTEN, ARISU!

A CERTAIN SOMEONE RECOMMENDED IT TO ME.

IT'S JUST AN OLD SONG I LOVED.

THE BAND'S NAME IS...

I DID SAY "WHOEVER DOES BETTER WINS," DIDN'T I?

OUR SCORES AREN'T THE DECIDING FACTOR HERE.

YOUR SINGING WAS JUST BETTER THAN MINE.

ALL RIGHT. I'LL TELL YOU MY REASON.

ARE YOU SURE?! DIDN'T I LOSE?!

I JUST CAN'T SING MY ORIGINAL SONGS...

...IN FRONT OF OTHER PEOPLE ANYMORE, DUE TO STUFF THAT HAPPENED IN MY PAST.

WAIN

OH YEAH!!

YOU SURE DON'T LIKE LOSING, HUH?

I'M SCARED OF THE GAZE PEOPLE GIVE ME...

WHEN THEY'RE DISAP-POINTED IN ME.

I'M JUST SCARED...

OF BEING JUDGED.

YOU *CAN'T* SING? CAN YOU ELAB-ORATE?

PROBABLY BECAUSE I CAN HIDE BEHIND THOSE SONGS...

PRETTY COWARDLY OF ME, ISN'T IT?

I DON'T FEEL AS MUCH STRESS...

WHEN I'M COVERING OTHER PEOPLE'S SONGS, HOWEVER.

IT'S A PRETTY STRAIGHT-FORWARD TRAUMA.

I SEE... SHE'S SCARED OF THE AUDIENCE'S JUDGMENTAL EYES, HUH?

IF I DON'T RESOLVE IT SOON, SHE WON'T HAVE ANY FUTURE AS A SINGER.

THIS IS A VERY SERIOUS ISSUE.

WHAT SHOULD I DO? OH, I KNOW!

IT'S EVEN AFFECTING HER SONG-WRITING PROCESS.

CLINK

WE'LL JUST HAVE TO DO THIS...

...THE YAMABUKI WAY.

I'VE BEEN TRYING TO WRITE A NEW SONG...

...BUT WHEN I THINK OF THOSE EYES WATCHING ME, I JUST CAN'T MAKE ANY GOOD PROGRESS.

I HAD TO TAKE PART IN NUMEROUS AFTER-SCHOOL ACTIVITIES.

THE PIERCING GAZE OF THE AUDIENCE...

...IS SOMETHING I KNOW ALL TOO WELL.

DOING PRESENTATIONS AND SPEECHES WERE PART OF THAT.

I USED TO BE AFRAID OF HAVING PEOPLE'S EYES ON ME, TOO...

すー

すー...

SIIIP

WHY ARE YOU DRINKING MY TEA?

CLATTER

カラ〜ン

OUR NEXT COURSE OF ACTION IS CLEAR, THEN.

WELL, YEAH...

...GET OVER YOUR FEAR?

HOW DID YOU...

...YOU STILL HAVE THE ONES YOU WROTE IN THE PAST, RIGHT?

EVEN IF YOU CAN'T WRITE A NEW SONG...

YOU JUST HAVE TO *GET USED TO IT!*

EXPERI-ENCE IS EVERY-THING!

FWISH

WAIT, WHAT?!

IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE A NEW SONG. HOWEVER, YOU CAN ONLY USE YOUR *ORIGINAL SONGS.*

I DIDN'T ASK FOR THIS-

I'LL PREPARE A VENUE AND AN AUDIENCE FOR YOU.

WE'LL DO A SCHOOL CONCERT...

AREN'T YOU BEING KIND OF INSEN-SITIVE HERE?

THIS IS NORMAL FOR THE YAMABUKI FAMILY.

YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO DO IT.

ALL RIGHT. FINE...

EXCELLENT! WE'LL BE DOING THE CONCERT...

...WITH ORIGINAL SONGS BY RIKKA INOHANA.

...A WEEK FROM NOW.

WHY THE SCHOOL ROOFTOP, THOUGH?

WHY CAN'T I JUST DO IT AT MY USUAL LOCATION?

SIIIP

I USED TO BE AFRAID OF HAVING PEOPLE'S EYES ON ME, TOO...

FWISH!!

YOU JUST HAVE TO *GET USED TO IT!*

EXPERI-ENCE IS EVERY-THING!

I THOUGHT YOU'D UNDERSTAND HOW I FEEL...

...BUT LOOKS LIKE I WAS WRONG.

YOU'RE NOT...

A LACK-LUSTER HACK LIKE ME.

YOU CAN EASILY BRUSH ASIDE ANY OBSTACLE THAT COMES YOUR WAY...

AND YOU EXPECT OTHER PEOPLE TO BE ABLE TO DO THE SAME.

ARE YOU NO DIFFER-ENT...

THROB

THROB

THROB

THROB

THROB

...THAN THAT PERSON?

HUH... I THOUGHT YOU'D BE ABLE TO PULL IT OFF.

MAYBE I EXPECTED A BIT TOO MUCH OUT OF YOU.

PANT

PANT

PANT

PANT

CREAK

KA-CHACK

I DON'T THINK I CAN DO IT...

SORRY, YAMA-BUKI-KUN.

IT'S BEEN SO LONG SINCE YOU LAST PERFORMED AN ORIGINAL SONG!

ROOFTOPS ARE SO SCARY... I CAN FEEL THE POTENTIAL ENERGY BUILDING UP WITHIN ME...

OH, SHE'S FINALLY HERE.

WH-WHY ARE YOU ALL HERE?

WHERE ARE THE OTHER SPECTA-TORS?

CLAP

CLAP

CLAP

WOO

CLAP

CLAP

SST

IT'S JUST THE FOUR OF US.

DID YOU REALLY THINK I'D JUST LET YOU DO A REAL CONCERT RIGHT AWAY?

...YOU NEED TO START WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND FAMILY.

IN ORDER TO GET USED TO THE AUDIENCE'S GAZE...

BUT IT REALLY HELPED ME OUT IN THE END.

THEY MERCILESSLY ROASTED ME, OF COURSE...

Those clothes are no good.

Your face looks awful.

IN FRONT OF MY SISTERS.

I OFTEN PRACTICED FOR MY PRESENTA-TIONS...

WE'LL WATCH YOUR CONCERT WITH AN OPEN MIND!

YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST TOLD US IF YOU NEEDED OUR HELP TO GET OVER YOUR FEAR.

WE ACTUALLY GOT V.I.P. SEATS FOR THIS CONCERT! HOW GREAT IS THAT?

THE ONLY PEOPLE HERE ARE THOSE WHO ARE SUPPORTIVE OF YOU.

THERE'S NOTHING TO FEAR HERE. JUST SING FOR US.

DON'T WORRY.

KA-CHAK

I'VE LOCKED THE DOOR.

IT'S SURE BEEN FOREVER... SINCE I LAST PERFORMED MY SONGS FOR YOU ALL, HUH?

UH... *UM...*

DARN IT...

...

...

...TOO NERVOUS TO EVEN SING.

I'M STILL...

SHE'S GOT SOME VERY DEEP-ROOTED TRAUMA, IT SEEMS...

I THOUGHT SHE'D BE ABLE TO SING FOR HER FRIENDS, BUT I GUESS IT WON'T BE THAT SIMPLE.

WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO ABOUT THAT?

...

WHEN WILL YOU BE STANDING IN TOKYO DOME, I WONDER?!

SO, YOU'RE GOING TO BECOME A SINGER!

...FLOODING MY MIND RIGHT NOW?

HUH? WHY ARE THESE MEMORIES...

THAT'D BE NICE! MAKE SURE WE CAN SEE YOUR FACE UP CLOSE!

PULL SOME STRINGS AND GET US FRONT-ROW SEATS!

I WANNA HEAR RIKKA SING IN A GIANT VENUE!

I MADE A PROMISE WITH THOSE THREE...

RIGHT...

BUT IF WE'RE ALL THE WAY IN THE FRONT, ONLY RIKKA WILL SEE US!

...GIVE THEM FRONT-ROW SEATS...

WHAT?! ISN'T THAT KIND OF CRINGE?

I WAS GOING TO...

OH, I'D LOVE TO DO THAT ONE THING WITH YOU ALL!

RIKKA!

...TO MY CON-CERT...

はぃ!! BA-はぃ BAM

大志

Rikka

共ノ華 推し

大志LOVE

大志の嫁だ

NENE'S RIGHT FAN: RIKKA FOR THE WIN!
NENE'S LEFT FAN: I STAN INOHANA!
IKO'S FAN: RIKKA
SHINOBU'S RIGHT FAN: RIKKA! ♡
SHINOBU'S LEFT FAN: RIKKA LOVE

YOU SHOULD VENT ABOUT YOUR PROBLEMS WITH US FROM TIME TO TIME.

大花しか

PUT UP A FRONT AND NEVER TELL US ANYTHING.

YOU ALWAYS ...

...BUT WE'LL BE SURE TO MAKE BETTER ONES FOR YOUR REAL CONCERT!

LOVE

THESE FANS MIGHT LOOK SHABBY SINCE WE JUST KINDA SLAPPED THEM TOGETHER...

大花

...AND LOOK AT US WHENEVER YOU'RE HAVING A TOUGH TIME...

OKAY?

JUST IMAGINE THAT WE'RE IN THE FRONT ROW CHEERING FOR YOU...

Heh heh.

RIGHT...

I'M BLACK-LISTING YOU FOR LIFE!

HMPH

HOW CAN I REDEEM MYSELF?!

I-I'M SORRY! I FIGURED YOU WOULDN'T BE AS NERVOUS IF I TOLD YOU IN ADVANCE...

WAY TO DESTROY MY TRUST IN YOU.

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU'D DECEIVE ME!

THAT WAS JUST SCUMMY!

SHADISH

IF THAT'LL ALLOW ME TO REGAIN YOUR TRUST, THEN SURE...

TREAT ME TO SOME KARAOKE...

ONE TIME PROBABLY ISN'T ENOUGH, THOUGH.

...AND HELP ME PRACTICE.

DID I LOSE THAT MUCH TRUST?!

WELL, IT'S BEEN 100 POINTS UP UNTIL NOW...

S-SO, HOW MUCH TRUST DO YOU HAVE IN ME RIGHT NOW?

I LOST 20 POINTS?!!

I'D SAY IT'S ABOUT 80 RIGHT NOW.

CHAPTER 18: 20 POINTS IS STILL WITHIN THE MARGIN OF ERROR